

Abstract of the Disclosure

The present invention relates to formulations for straightening hair comprising alcanoic acids, combined with water, optionally in combination with other suitable diluents. In one embodiment the formulation further comprises polyethylene glycol  
5 (PEG) mono stearate having an average molecular weight of from about 200 to about 6,000 Daltons. It has been found that combining an enzyme with aqueous alcanoic acid aids in the absorption of alcanoic acid and has hair-straightening properties itself.